VITAL SIGNS

Worthy of note: Honors, awards, appointments, etc.

Ethan Dmitrovsky, M.D., a professor of pharmacology and toxicology, was named associate scientific director of the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation.

Gregory Tsongalis, Ph.D., an associate professor of pathology, was elected president of the Association for Molecular Pathology.

Charles Wira, Ph.D., a professor of physiology, has been tapped as president-elect of the American Society for Reproductive Immunology.

Madeline Dalton, Ph.D., a research associate professor of pediatrics, received the Alfred University Alumni Award for Distinguished Achievement.

David Robbins, Ph.D., an associate professor of pharmacology and toxicology, was appointed to the editorial board of the Journal of Biological Chemistry.

Lori Alvord, M.D., an assistant professor of surgery and associate dean for student and multicultural affairs, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Drexel University.

Marie Bakitas, D.N.Sc., a nurse practitioner in palliative medicine, received the Anthony Di Guida-Delta Mu Prize for Excellence in Scholarship and Dissertation from the Yale University School of Nursing, in recognition of her doctoral research in chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy.

Diane Harper, M.D., M.P.H., a professor of community and family medicine, was named the 2006 New Hampshire Family Physician of the Year by the New Hampshire Academy of Family Physicians. For more on Harper, see page 56.

Joseph Annis, M.D., an adjunct associate professor of anesthesiology, was elected to the American Medical Association board of trustees.

George Little, M.D., a professor of pediatrics, was named New Hampshire Pediatrician of the Year by the New Hampshire chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. A specialist in newborn care, Little developed the regional perinatal system for New Hampshire and Vermont.

Three pediatricians with DMS ties were chosen as officers in the New Hampshire Pediatric Society: Charles Cappetta, M.B.B.S., an adjunct associate professor, as president; Patricia Campbell, D.O., an adjunct assistant professor, as secretary; and Christine Rosenwasser, M.D., an adjunct assistant professor, as treasurer.

DHMC's Norris Cotton Cancer Center was named one of the top 50 hospitals for cancer care by U.S. News & World Report in its 2006 “America’s Best Hospitals” issue.

DHMC and the VA Medical Center in White River Junction, Vt., were named among the nation’s 100 most wired small and rural hospitals, according to Hospitals & Health Networks magazine. The annual survey focuses on hospitals’ use of information technology to address quality, customer service, public health and safety, and workforce issues. DHMC has been a “Most Wired” hospital for six of the last seven years.

Clarification: In the feature about AIDS in our Summer 2006 issue, the directory of faculty and alumni involved in HIV/AIDS was an effort to encapsulate (in only 30 to 40 words each) contributions to research and care by 20-some individuals—historical milestones as well as recent work. That resulted in a few descriptions that did not clearly reflect some faculty members’ current work. Alexandra Howell, since making the seminal 1997 finding described in the article, has studied heterosexual transmission of HIV, the influence of sex hormones on HIV infection, and the replication of HIV within the female reproductive tract. Charles Wira heads a National Institutes of Health Project Grant that is designed to increase knowledge of immune protection in the human female reproductive tract and provide information regarding the prevention of local infection in the genital mucosa; such knowledge will be useful in managing sexually transmitted diseases and in understanding heterosexual HIV transmission. And Susana Asin studies heterosexual HIV transmission, the influence of sex hormones and of inflammation triggered by sexually transmitted pathogens on HIV infection, and viral replication in the female reproductive tract.